

# **New England Ratepayer Advocate Summit**

## **Panel I – How Customers Can Effectively Participate in Regional and Federal Energy Forums**

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# Who is TEC-RI?



# **The Energy Council of RI**

- **Over 60,000 RI jobs**
- **Manufacturers**
- **Colleges & Universities**
- **Hospitals**
- **Major businesses**
- **Working to lower the cost of energy for RI businesses and institutions**

## **Main message:**

**There is a big shift underway  
to make energy policy issues  
regional issues.**

**This shift puts the ratepayer  
at a big disadvantage.**

# Why?

**Because ratepayers, are  
organized (to the extent  
they are organized at all)  
and represented  
almost exclusively  
at the state level.**

**In addition, even  
state forums –  
regulatory commissions  
and state legislatures –  
are increasingly  
influenced by regional  
players and factors.**

## **Outline of Remaining Remarks**

- **Ratepayer issues; regional disadvantages**
- **The strategy being played against us**
- **The players**
- **“Regionalization” and how it works against us**
- **A RI Illustration**